



Fire Fighting and Fire Protection with Superabsorbent Gel Technology



Home owners are continually moving into rural settings



Homeowner fights an uphill battle attempting to provide exposure protection

#### What is Thermo-Gel 2001?



fire extinguishing additive for Class A fires

which converts

water into a gel



USBA Forest Service

Washington Office

Fire & Aviation Management

1/5/05

#### Fire Chemicals

#### For use by USDA Forest Service

(Qualified or Approved and commercially available)

Chemical	Mix Ratio	Qualified/Approved Applications <sup>1</sup>						
		Flaed-Wing Airtanker	Fixed-Wing Water Scooper	SEATS	Fixed-Tank Hølkopter	Helicopier Bucket	Ground Engine	
FIRE SUPPRESSANT WATER ENHANCERS (Approved under Administrative Work Plan – qualification of these product types will be covered by Forest Service Specification 5100-306a as soon as it is implemented).								
Please review the Notes for Sele	stion and Use [www.fs.fed.us/	nn/fire/retardants	s/current/gen/docume	nts/waterenh.ht	m]			

Phos-Chek AquaGel-K <sup>2</sup>	0.4-1.2%	•	*
Thermo-Gel 200L <sup>3</sup>	2%	₩	*
Flame Guard Gel	0.6 lb/gal		*
Wildfire AFG Firewall <sup>4</sup>	3.0%		*

#### Composition

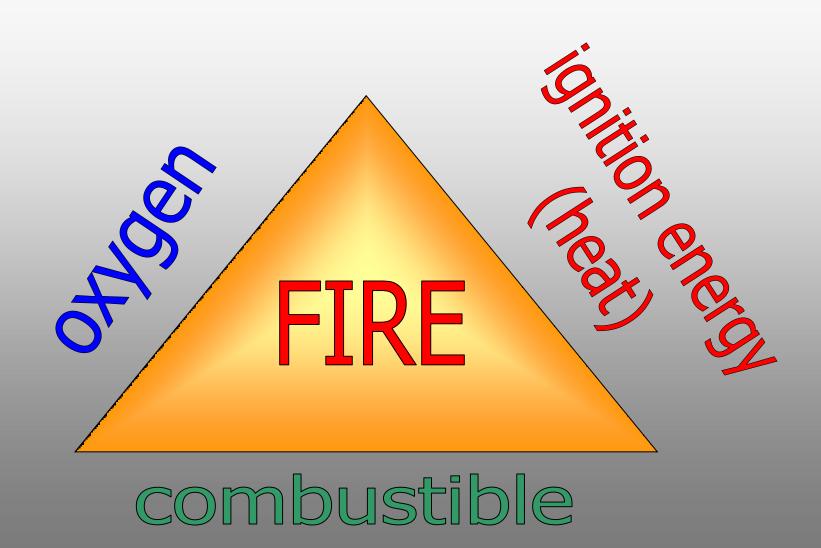
The Thermo-Gel® 200L concentrate consists of:

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28 % polymer
43 % water
23 % mineral oil
6 % surfactants
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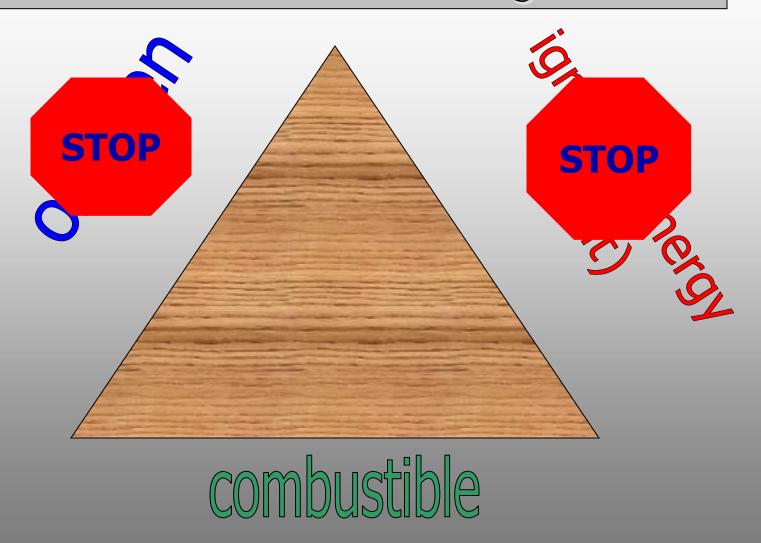
Thus, 100 lbs Gel (at 1.5 % Thermo-Gel® 200L) contain

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0.42 lbs polymer
0.34 lbs mineral oil
0.09 lbs surfactants
99.15 lbs water
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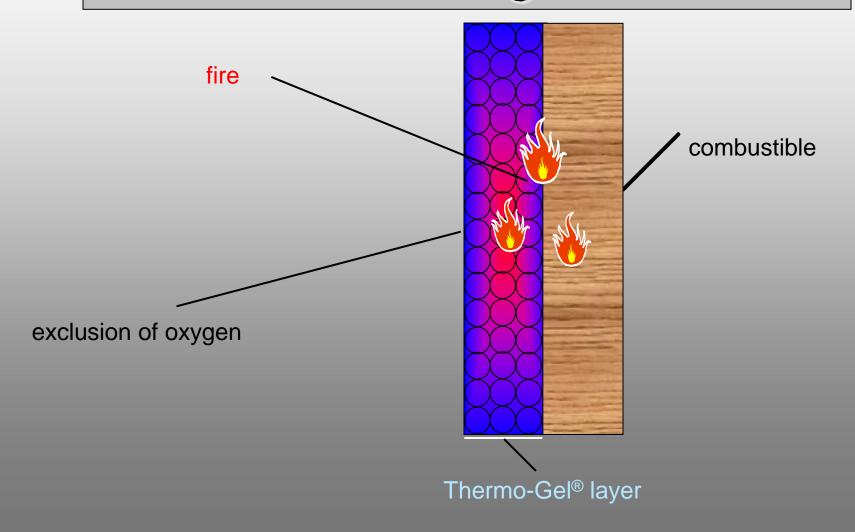
### Three pre-requisites of fire



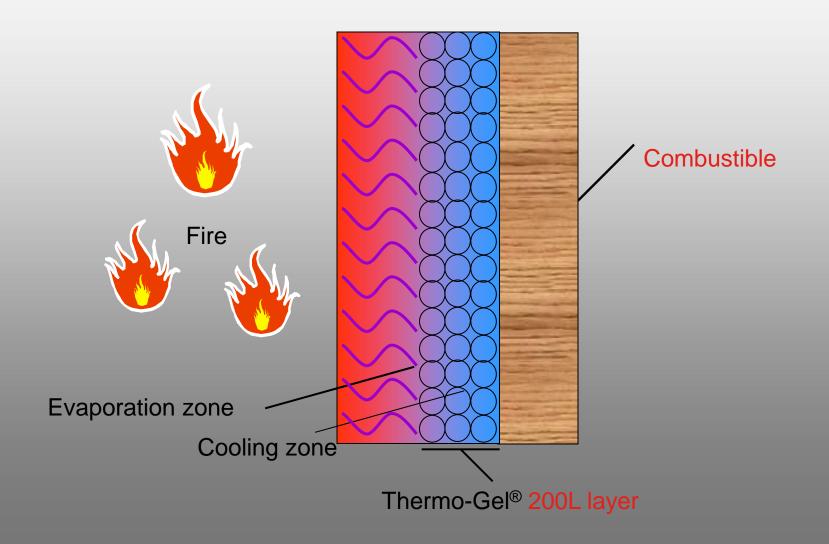
## The role of Thermo-Gel® 2001



# Cooling + Suffocation with Thermo-Gel® 2001



## Cooling / Protection



#### Clings to overhanging surfaces





Adheres to glass and metal surfaces



Covers flammable roof surfaces

#### Structure protection with Thermo-Gel® 2001

A comparative trial of Thermo-Gel® 200L vs. Class A Foam





Application of Thermo-Gel® 200L

# Structure protection with

Thermo-Gel® 2001 (Test)

Protection with Class A foam at 1%



Protection with Thermo-Gel® 200L at 2 %

Fire taking impact on structure

(Fuel 2.5 gal Chevron Training Fuel III, time on fire 10 min.)

	Side A (Foam)	Side B (Thermo-Gel, 2001)	
After 2 min	Shows signs of pre-heating	Full protection	
Within 3 min	Eaves ignite and begin burning	Full protection	
4 min	Glass window pane cracks	Window pane stayed intact over duration of test	
3 to 7 min	Water needs to be applied repeatedly to prevent house from burning too rapidly	No action needed No signs of charring	
After 10 min	Fire inside the wall	No hot spots No signs of impingement	
End of test	Structure lost	Structure saved and fully intact	

#### Fire Trial at DMT

Test material: 660 lbs (300 kg) car

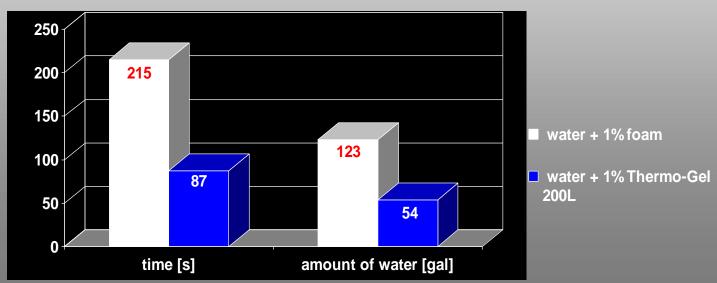
tires

**Burning time:** 8 minutes

#### **Extinguishing additives:**

Foam as wetting agent: 1.0 % Thermo-Gel® 200L: 1.0 %

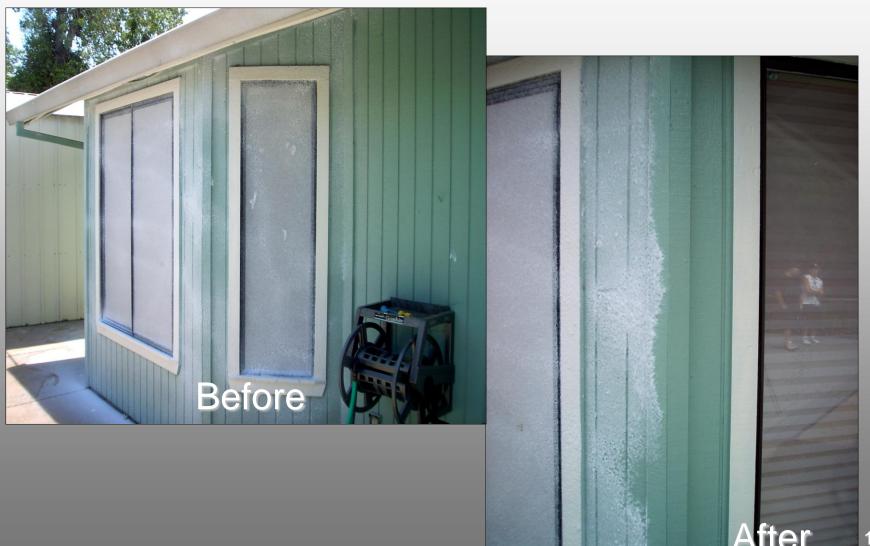






Cleans up with water

# Thermo-Gel® Clean-Up



## A P P l i c

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Creation of fire breaks without removal of vegetation

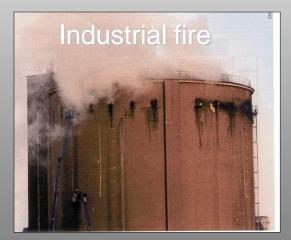


Most effective prevention of rekindling





Two gallons of Thermo-Gel<sup>®</sup> 200L can save a home



35,000,000 lbs sugar beets in silo extinguished with Thermo-Gel® 200L

## Fire Suppression

- Gel adheres to the burning material
- Increases the water's effectiveness
- Reduces extinguishment time
- Cools the material
- Excludes oxygen
- Suffocates the fire
- > Prevents rekindle

#### Industrial Fires



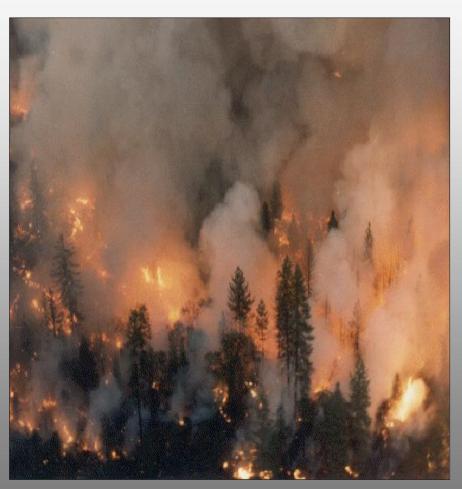
- Grain Silos
- Sawdust Bins or Piles
- Log Landings
- Warehouse
- Container Storage
- Palletized Products

## Structure Fires





## Wildland Fires





## Tire Fires





## Prescribed Burning





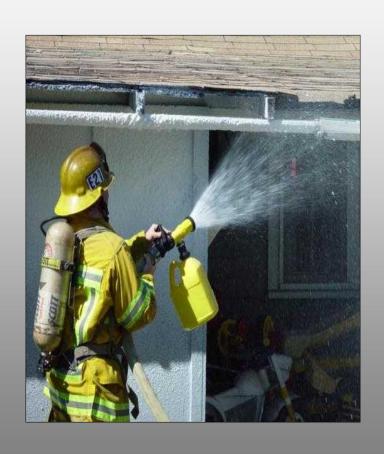




#### Protection

- Clings to glass, metal, siding, vegetation
- Provides thermal barrier
- Prevents radiant heat ignition
- Blocks direct flame impingement
- Easily removed when threat passes

#### Structures and Vehicles



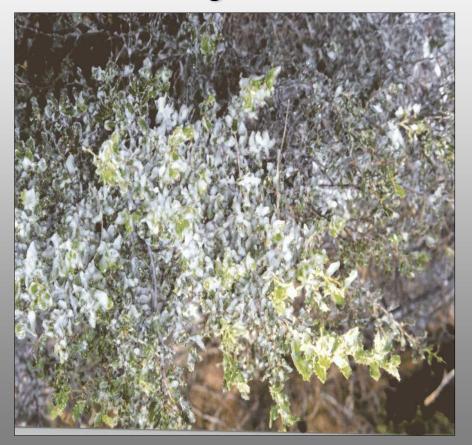


## Fuel and Propane Tanks

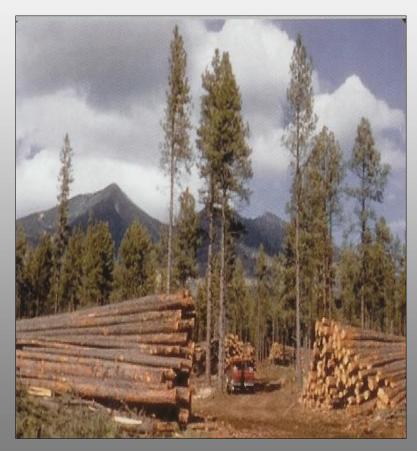


# Exposures

Vegetation



Log Deck



## **Application Systems**

1-Gallon Garden Hose Eductor Nozzle

5-Gallon Fire Hose Eductor Nozzle





## 5-Gallon







## 1-Gallon









#### Advisements - Thermo-Gel®

#### Non-Aggressive: Thermo-Gel® can be applied to

- Paint
- Wood
- Glass
- Stone
- Stucco
- Concrete
- Rubber
- Vegetation

#### Environmentally Safe and Bio-degradable

- Breaks down by ultra-violet sunlight
- Can be washed off with water and into drainage systems
- Thermo-Gel® is Non-Toxic

#### Homeowner Information

#### Clean-up – After threat passes

- Rinse surfaces thoroughly with water from top down
- Windows can be cleaned with window cleaner
- It is Not necessary to rinse from vegetation
- Thoroughly rinse gel from sidewalks, driveways or walkways gel is very slippery
- Milky-white color is normal and will NOT harm the environment

#### > SAFETY

 Thermo-Gel® is slippery and extreme caution must be taken while walking, standing, or working in treated areas. Wear non-slip footwear while applying or rinsing gel from surfaces. Never attempt to climb or stand on a treated roof. Falls and serious injury can result.



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www.thermo-gel.com

24 hour Emergency/EERA/BPA 866-255-8137

U.S. Patents 5,989,446; 6,245,252 Addl Patents Pending

U.S. Forest Service Approved! Meets NFPA 1150 Standard!